

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2002
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on September 18 at 10:15 a.m. at the Metropolitan Water District, Committee Room 2-456, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California.

Members Present: Rod Diridon, Chairperson
 Jerry Epstein, Vice Chairperson
 Fran Florez, Vice Chairperson
 Dr. Ernest A. Bates
 William E. Leonard
 Joseph E. Petrillo
 T.J. Stapleton
 Leland Wong

Members Absent: Ben L. Hom

Report of the Committee

Chairperson Diridon reported that due to the absence of a quorum at the August 21, 2002 Board Meeting, the July 17, 2002 meeting minutes and the list of meetings for compensation were considered and recommended for approval by the members present, sitting as a Committee of the Whole. Chairperson Diridon now presented these two items to the Board for approval. Member Stapleton moved to approve the July 17, 2002 meeting minutes and the list of meetings for compensation as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. Member Leonard seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

Approval of Minutes for August 21, 2002 Meeting

Chairperson Diridon presented the minutes for approval. Member Stapleton moved to approve the August 21, 2002 meeting minutes. Member Leonard seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation

Chairperson Diridon presented the list of meetings for compensation for approval. The list of meetings for compensation was approved by consent, 5-0.

Members Reports

Member Wong welcomed the Board Members, staff and visitors to the Los Angeles area. Vice Chairperson Florez reported she met with the San Joaquin Rail Committee last month. Member Leonard reported he wrote a letter to Governor Gray Davis urging him to sign the bills pertaining to the High-Speed Rail Authority activities. Chairperson Diridon reported on SB1856 and SB796, stating that both bills have passed the Senate and the House and are currently before the Governor. Chairperson Diridon expressed appreciation for all of State Senator Jim Costa's hard work on these two bills.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mehdi Morshed reported the proposed state budget has been approved and the staff has issued direction to our consultants to start their activities. A revised schedule will be presented to the Board soon.

Executive Director Morshed reported on proposed and pending legislation pertaining to the Authority.

- SB796 (Costa). This bill would eliminate the Authority's sunset date of December 31, 2003. This bill was passed and is currently before the Governor for his signature.
- SB1856 (Costa). This bill would provide for the issuance of a \$9.95 billion general obligation revenue bond for the purpose of funding the planning and construction of a high-speed train system in California. This bill was passed and is currently before the Governor for his signature.

Executive Director Morshed offered a word of caution to the Board Members regarding the legal restrictions of an advocacy role. The Authority has a position of support on SB1856. However if the Governor signs the bill, it is important to remember that state resources cannot be spent promoting the bond measure. Executive Director Morshed suggested to Chairperson Diridon a workshop with representatives from the Attorney General's Office and Fair Political Practices be coordinated for the members to participate on October 16, 2002 in Sacramento.

Vice-Chairperson Jerry Epstein entered the meeting.

Executive Director Morshed extended his appreciation to State Senator Jim Costa and State Assembly Member Dean Florez for their tremendous work in getting the bill passed. The Authority owes a great deal of gratitude to the both of them.

Executive Director Morshed reminded the Board that SB1856 requires a 50% match of funds from other sources. Therefore, if SB1856 were signed, the Board would have the major task of identifying and obtaining the matching funds.

Member Joseph Petrillo entered the meeting.

Member Ernest Bates entered the meeting.

Los Angeles Union Station Development Plan

Dean Perton of Catellus Development Corporation presented information concerning the current and potential future development efforts for the Los Angeles Union Station area. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Los Angeles Union Station Run-Through Tracks

Mel Placilla of HDR Engineering presented a conceptual overview of an option for placing run-through tracks at the Los Angeles Union Station. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Closed Session

The Authority met in closed session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to Government Code Section 11126, subdivision (a) (1). Following closed session, the meeting reconvened in open session.

JARTS

Mr. Yoshihiro Akiyama of Japan Railway Technical Service and Mr. Junichi Ito of the Central Japan Railway Company presented the overall characteristics of the Japanese Shinkansen System and the characteristics of the newest type Shinkansen rolling stock. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Public Comment**John Ferdinandi, Jr., Fresno Area Residents for Rail Consolidation (FARRC) & the City of Fresno**

Mr. Ferdinandi thanked the Authority for meeting in Fresno last month. He expressed his support for the proposed high-speed rail project and stated that FARRC and Fresno will continue to work together with the Authority.

John Bacon

Mr. Bacon expressed concern over potential earthquake risks and suggested the Authority consider earthquake safety measures while planning the proposed high-speed rail system.

Mike Palmer, R.A., Palmer & Associates AIA

Mr. Palmer wanted to know why the Japanese system utilized overhead catenary verses third rail technology.

Identification of Date and Location of Next Meeting

The next Authority Board meeting is scheduled on October 16, 2002 in Sacramento, CA.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.